

Elimination of the ban on cross-ownership is a carte blanche for oligopoly. Only major conglomerates stand to benefit from overturning the ban, and such an action is unhealthy both for competition and for diversity of reportage. Proponents of the ban's elimination insist that the ban is an obstruction to improving the quality and quantity of local news and programming. Please note that the four major TV networks in the US must, by their very nature, act in a way that maximizes profits and boosts shareholder value. They do this by getting their programming viewed by the largest national audience possible, which maximizes advertising revenue. This means that there is no incentive whatsoever to support locally-oriented programming. Their entire argument, in other words, is complete bunk. Please leave the ban in place.